



# NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

Charles R. Patton Chapter 156  
136 Castlerock Drive, Asheville, NC 28806-9517

*Newsletter  
July, 2008*

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**WHEN:** Saturday, July 12, 2008  
**WHERE:** Ryans Family Steak House, 1000 Brevard Rd.  
Near Biltmore Square Mall  
**TIME:** Breakfast at 8:30 am, Meeting at 9:30 am

## **JULY PROGRAM**

We Welcome Molly Scott who will present a program on Medicare Part D and other related topics at our July 12th NARFE meeting. Mollie received her B S in Biology from Meredith College in 1989 and her Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of North Carolina in 1993. In 1994 she completed a residency in Geriatrics at the V A Medical Center in Durham, NC and was board certified in pharmacotherapy in 1995. Mollie is currently the director of the department of pharmacotherapy at the Mountain Area Health Education Center in Asheville. She also serves as assistant director of the primary care residency program at Mission Hospital.

Mollie is married to Robert Scott a veterinarian in Asheville and has two children. In her spare time she enjoys reading, travel, and her two kittens.

## **BENEVOLENCE REPORT THRU MAY**

New chapter members: We welcome the following new members into our Chapter:

Paul Ford Katherine Schmeltekopf

As new members to NARFE and Chapter 156, please join us at our monthly chapter meetings announced in each newsletter.

Members that have decided to drop their membership:

Jane Christiansen Lucille Freeman  
Willa Dean Hoglen Deborah Leggat  
Glenn Stallard

We ask any member acquainted with these folks to give them a call and encourage them to reinstate their membership. They are important to us and to NARFE as NARFE is to them.

## **YOUR CHAPTER NEEDS YOU**

Please seriously consider your role in assisting your NARFE Chapter with its needs for continued strength and vitality. Over 400 members of Chapter 156 join the 7,000 NARFE members across the state of NC in realizing the importance of NARFE and its goals of protecting our promised but vulnerable retirement benefits. We have had over 80 members at one time or many times who have enjoyed and benefited from our monthly chapter meetings over the past several years. And we have many chapter members who realize the importance of our service officer's efforts, our communication tools, our Alzheimer's campaign, etc.

At present, we have a critical need for members to step forward and help with the leadership of our chapter. At this time we are in need of members to fill our chapter President and Secretary positions. With the membership statistics noted above, it is unimaginable that we have no one willing to step forward and take their turn at helping with chapter leadership,

yet over the past two months our Nominating committee has found no member to step forward. I'm aware that many chapter members are not able because of many reasons, However, I'm certain that many chapter members are capable of carrying out the needed positions within our chapter, with the understanding that these positions should not represent a commitment beyond 2 years.

NARFE Chapter 156 is not my chapter, or Frank Quinlan's chapter, it is our/your chapter. We should be willing to share in the efforts required to keep Chapter 156 alive and well. I thank all who have stepped forward in the past and who are currently enjoying the fun and comradeship within the present leadership team. Plus, it is a special time to be involved in a Chapter with a fellow chapter member serving as President of the NARFE NC Federation of Chapters.

The opportunity is yours. Please give our chapter's needs serious consideration and call Bruce Habermann, Chairman of our Nominating committee (828-667-5705). Also, any other suggestions, ideas, or comments you wish to share, feel free to call any of our chapter's current leadership.

Theron Rumsey, Past President and Newsletter Editor

## **IT'S HAPPENING IN WASHINGTON**

---- The House on Capital Hill will recess Friday June 27 until Tuesday July 8 for the Independence Day District Work Period. The Senate is expected to take a similar break. Take this opportunity to contact or meet Face-to-Face with your elected officials regarding NARFE's priority issues.

There are at least four good ways to contact congressional offices to learn Members schedules or arrange a meeting: **1)** use the NARFE sponsored toll free number, 1-866-220-0044, to reach the Capitol switchboard and ask for your Representative or either Senator by name, **2)** use the Legislative Action Center on the NARFE web site, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org), ([www.capwiz.com/narfe](http://www.capwiz.com/narfe)), **3)** use the blue pages of most phone directories or **4)** contact the NARFE legislative staff (703/838-7760 or [leg@narfe.org](mailto:leg@narfe.org)).

---- A representative from Heath Shuler's local office will attend the Area I joint picnic at Jackson Park, Pavilion I, Hendersonville, NC on August 15<sup>th</sup>. A chance to discuss NARFE issues with a person working closely with Mr. Shuler.

---- NARFE supports H.R. 5781. On June 19, the House passed H.R. 5781, the Federal Employee Paid Parental Leave Act of 2008, by a 278 to 146 margin. The bill, introduced by Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), now moves to the Senate. Sen. Jim Webb (D-VA) introduced legislation, S. 3140, similar to the House passed version on June 16. Virginia's senior Senator, John Warner (R-VA) is among the nine cosponsors.

**JOIN US AT THE PICNIC**

AREA I JOINT PICNIC – FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 2008  
JACKSON PARK, 801 GLOVER ST., HENDERSONVILLE, NC

(PLAN TO ARRIVE BY 11:00 A.M. FOR SIGNING IN AND GETTING AUCTION NUMBERS FOR THE AUCTION AND GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER. THERE WILL BE PICNIC TABLES/BENCHES BUT FEEL FREE TO BRING A LAWN CHAIR IF YOU LIKE)

HENDERSONVILLE EXIT IS 49B - INTO FOUR SEASONS BOULEVARD OFF I-26  
(TRAVELING FROM EITHER THE WEST OR FROM THE EAST)

FOLLOW FOUR SEASONS BOULEVARD TO THE 7<sup>TH</sup> (seventh) TRAFFIC LIGHT  
(TOWARD HENDERSONVILLE - APPROXIMATELY 1 & 1/2 MILES)

TURN LEFT INTO "HARRIS STREET" (NARFE SIGN).

HARRIS STREET IS ONLY TWO BLOCKS AND DEADENDS AT E. 4<sup>th</sup> Ave (NARFE SIGN) WHERE YOU TURN LEFT.

ENTER JACKSON PARK AND CONTINUE ON UNTIL YOU COME TO SHELTER #1 (NARFE SIGN) WHICH WILL BE ON YOUR "RIGHT."

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MENU (food will arrive 11:30 AM)

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FRIED CHICKEN & BAKED HAM  
RED SKIN POTATO SALAD – BAKED BEANS – COLE SLAW  
WHEAT ROLLS  
DESSERT: BANANA PUDDING  
BEVERAGES: WATER – TEA (SWEET & UNSWEET) - LEMONADE

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RESERVATIONS

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Reservations need to be made by Wednesday, August 6, 2008. Check to be made out to NARFE Chapter 214 in the amount of \$12.85 and mailed to our Treasurer: Joyce Armstrong, 915 Toxaway Dr, Hendersonville, NC 28791-1842. (Phone: 691-3244). {Cost includes price of food plus 6.75 percent tax and gratuity.}

Thanks – let's have a good time and a good get-together. Looking forward to the picnic!

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AUCTION

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Please bring "choice" auction items and remember to have Alzheimer's in mind when bidding.

**CAR POOL TO THE PICNIC**

We would like to see as many as want to attend the Area I picnic to do so but realize some may not have access to transportation to Jackson Park. Therefore, we would like to organize a car pool activity that would probably leave from and return to the parking lot at Ryan's in Biltmore Square. Please contact our President Frank Quinlan if you would like to be included in a car pool for the picnic at Jackson Park August 15.

**UPCOMING CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS**

Next month's newsletter will be a special issue that will be helpful as we progress through this election season. If you have special concerns or inquiries, please contact our Legislative Officer Ted Mathis, President Frank Quinlan, or myself before the 15<sup>th</sup> of July.

**VALUE OF NARFE MEMBERSHIP**

It is worth highlighting the following statements in an article by or Region X VP Joe Beaudoin: Many times we are questioned as to "Why should I join NARFE and/or maintain my NARFE membership". We know that the upcoming Baby Boomers are not joiners as they look at retirement as a time to get away from meeting, groups, organizations, etc. Next year when a new President and Congress take office, it will be harder than ever to maintain or keep our present benefits. The future 111<sup>th</sup> Congress will be attempting to adhere to a policy of "Pay As You Go" and will have to deal with major liabilities/obligations such as Medicare, Social Security, Federal Debt, Federal Pensions, and Federal Retirement Health Benefits, all of which are expected to grow substantially between now and 2011. If we continue to lose membership, we will not have the members needed to maintain our influence on Capital Hill and maintain our benefits. Membership is critical and it counts. "Together we can make a difference".

**ANSWERING THE CALL**

NARFE members, especially those who participated in the nation's largest one day food drive, the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, on May 10<sup>th</sup>, will be pleased to learn that a new record amount, 73.1 million pounds of food donations, was collected by city and rural letter carriers. The food was delivered to local food banks, pantries and shelters to help needy families in all 50 states and U.S. jurisdictions.

**CONCERN FOR JANE BLODGETT**

Jane blodgett, member of our chapter and wife of our chapter Secretary recently suffered a sever stroke. She remains in critical condition in ICU with limited family visitation. Jane, Lewis, and their family can use your prayers.

**Deadline for the next (August) newsletter – July 21, 2008**

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE GROCE FUNERAL HOME AND ASHEVILLE QUICKPRINT FOR THEIR CONTINUING SUPPORT TO NARFE CHAPTER 156, and RYAN'S FAMILY STEAK HOUSE FOR PROVIDING MEETING ROOM SPACE.

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**NARFE  
CHAPTER NEWS**

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